

**NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM**  
**FACT SHEET**

Permittee and Mailing Address: Shell Guam, Inc.  
643 Chalan San Antonio, Suite 100  
Tamuning, Guam 96913

Permitted Facility and Address: Shell Guam Agat Terminal  
Chalan Tenjo Vista  
Agat, Guam 96915

Contact Person: Mr. Plaridel Santos  
V.P. Operations  
643 Chalan San Antonio, Suite 100  
Tamuning, Guam 96913  
(671) 565-2300

NPDES Permit No.: GU0020150

**PART I - STATUS OF PERMIT**

Shell Guam, Inc. (hereinafter, "Shell Guam" or the "permittee") has applied for renewal of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit pursuant to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations set forth in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 122.21, for the discharge of effluent from tank bottom water draws and storm water runoff from its bulk petroleum storage terminal located at Tenjo Vista, in the Municipality of Agat, Guam (Agat Terminal) to Big Guatali River which discharges to Apra Harbor, which in turn connects to the Philippine Sea and the Pacific Ocean. These regulations require any person who discharges or proposes to discharge pollutants from a point source into waters of the U.S. to submit a complete application for a NPDES permit, including renewal of a permit. Because the Territory of Guam (Guam) has not been delegated primary regulatory responsibility for administering the NPDES program, EPA is issuing a NPDES permit which incorporates both federal CWA and Guam water quality requirements. In accordance with 40 CFR 122.21(e), on November 29, 2005 the permittee submitted a complete application for renewal of its NPDES permit. The permittee is currently authorized to discharge to Big Guatali River under the NPDES Permit No. GU0020150, which became effective on March 21, 2001 and expired on March 22, 2006. Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.21, the terms of the existing permit are administratively extended until the issuance of a new permit.

**PART II – DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY**

Shell Guam operates a bulk petroleum storage terminal located at Tenjo Vista, Guam. The facility utilizes several tanks to store and distribute gasoline, automotive diesel fuel, and jet

fuel. Discharge from the facility consists primarily of effluent from tank bottom water draws and storm water. All discharges are treated by an Oil/Water Separator (OWS) before being discharged to the Big Guatali River through Outfall 001. The average flow rate reported by the permittee is 600 gallons per minute (gpm) or 864,000 gallons per day when there is a discharge. DMR data indicates fluctuations in flow rate from less than 500,000 gallons a day to over 2,000,000 gallons per day.

Additionally, since 2003, this facility has also received and treated water hauled to it from the Shell Guam facility located at F-1 Pier in the municipality of Piti. In a letter dated April 16, 2004, Shell Guam informed EPA that it was stopping all discharges from the F-1 facility in Piti for which it has a separate NPDES Permit (GU0020338) and transporting all oily water to the Shell Agat Terminal for treatment using the OWS at the Agat facility. The average reported flow rate of the Piti F-1 Pier facility is about 82,000 gallons per day.

### **PART III – REASONABLE POTENTIAL**

In order to establish reasonable potential, operations that result in discharges were analyzed, and monitoring data were reviewed.

#### **A. Tank Bottom Water Draws and Storm Water Runoff**

Water from condensation contaminates the fuel and must be drawn off the bottom of the storage tanks. Operators of tank farms in California have indicated that discharges from tank bottom water are potentially significant sources of pollutants.

Additionally, storm water runoff can become contaminated by coming in contact with spills, leaks, improperly stored materials and wastes, and an inadequately cleaned facility.

Benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene are the more volatile components of petroleum hydrocarbons. These pollutants are usually present in petroleum products, but are most associated with petroleum products with lighter ranges of hydrocarbons, such as gasoline. Because discharges come into contact with petroleum products, including gasoline, and because oil-water separators are the only means of treatment, it is reasonable to expect that these pollutants may be discharged to surface waters. Additionally the discharger is required to conduct a priority pollutant scan to assess if there are any other toxic pollutants potentially present in concentrations sufficient to be detected and to be of concern in the effluent. If such additional pollutants are detected then the permit may be modified to include additional monitoring. If such additional pollutants are detected and determined to have reasonable potential for exceedence then the permit may be modified to include effluent limits for such pollutants.

Lead is being phased out as an additive in gasoline, and leaded gasoline has been banned for on-road vehicles, it may still be used for off-road use, such as marine engines, or in certain aviation fuels. Additionally, unleaded gasoline also contains low levels of lead. Therefore, permittee shall sample for lead either separately within 90 days of permit issuance or as part of the Priority Pollutants Scan that is

also required as part of this permit. If the results show that the limit was not exceeded and no there is reasonable potential for the limit to be exceeded, then no further sampling is required for the duration of this permit. If however the sampling data shows that the lead level was exceeded or that there is reasonable potential for the level to be exceeded, the permit may be re-opened and a limit for lead imposed.

## **B. Monitoring Data**

DMR Data indicates that the facility discharges a fluctuating flow that ranges from zero flow during certain months to over 9 million gallons during other months. There are no indications that permit limits or monitoring limits have been exceeded, during the previous permit cycle. The DMR data indicates that the facility has been able to successfully treat and discharge effluent generated at the facility itself as well as effluent transported from Shell's F-1 Pier facility (GU0020338) since 2004.

## **PART IV – BASIS FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

As federal guidelines have not been promulgated for bulk oil storage and transfer facilities, limitations were established using:

1. Guam water quality standards, revised and approved by Guam on June 18, 2002;
2. National Recommended Water Quality Criteria, December 2004; and
3. Best Professional Judgement

The Guam water quality standards categorize the Big Guatali River as S-3 (LOW). S-3 waters are defined as being surface water that "is primarily used for commercial, agricultural, and industrial activities. Aesthetic enjoyment and compatible recreation are acceptable in this zone, as well as maintenance of aquatic life."

### **Oil and Grease**

The permit limit for oil and grease is based on Best Professional Judgment. The limit of 15 mg/L has been carried over from the previous permit. This limit is consistent with other bulk storage terminal permits. Narrative water quality objectives for oil and grease are also included in the permit.

### **Lead**

The Guam water quality standards for Lead indicate a value of 0.082 mg/L acute and 0.0032 mg/L chronic. The permit limit in this permit is based on the more stringent of these values, i.e. the 0.0032 mg/L.

**Benzene**

The Guam water quality standards for Benzene indicate a value of 0.0012 mg/L to protect human health from consumption of water and aquatic life . There are no limits in the Guam water quality standards for the protection of aquatic life itself. Monitoring limits without permit limits have been included in the permit based on this value.

**Ethylbenzene**

The Guam water quality standards for Ethylbenzene indicate a value of 3.1 mg/L to protect human health from consumption of water and aquatic life. There are no limits in the Guam water quality standards for the protection of aquatic life itself. Monitoring limits without permit limits have been included in the permit based on this value.

**Toluene**

The Guam water quality standards for Ethylbenzene indicate a value of 6.8 mg/L to protect human health from consumption of water and aquatic life. There are no limits in the Guam water quality standards for the protection of aquatic life itself. Monitoring limits without permit limits have been included in the permit based on this value.

**Xylene**

There are no limits in either the Guam water quality standards or in the National Recommended water quality criteria for Xylene. Therefore, the permit simply requires sampling and monitoring for this parameter, without a specific permit action level.

**pH**

The Guam water quality standard states that for Category M-3 waters, pH shall remain within the range of 6.5 to 8.5 pH units.

**PART V – PRIORITY POLLUTANTS SCAN**

In accordance with federal regulations, the permittee shall conduct a Priority Toxics Pollutants scan during the first effluent discharge event after the issuance of the permit to ensure that the discharge does not contain toxic pollutants in concentrations that may cause violation of water quality standards. If the scan results indicate that a limit has actually been exceeded or there is a reasonable potential for such a limit to be exceeded, this permit may be reopened to include appropriate numeric limits.

## **PART VI - POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN**

The permit contains requirements for an extensive pollution prevention plan (PPP). The PPP is required to include: establishment of a pollution prevention committee; source identification; source control Best Management Practices (BMPs); and treatment control BMPs.

## **PART VII – OTHER CONSIDERATIONS UNDER FEDERAL LAWS**

### **A. Endangered Species Act**

The discharge is to inland surface waters and therefore the US Fish and Wildlife Service is the federal agency with jurisdiction over the receiving water. EPA obtained a list of threatened and endangered species from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The list includes twelve animal species and one plant species as follows: Little Marianas Fruit Bat (*Pteropus tokudae*), Marianas Fruit Bat or Marianas Flying Fox (*Pteropus marianus marianus*), Mariana Crow (*Corvus kubaryi*), Guam Micronesian Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus guam*), Guam Rail (*Rallus owstoni*), Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), Hawksbill Sea Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricate*), Leatherback Sea Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), Loggerhead Sea Turtle (*Caretta caretta*), Mariana Gray Swiftlet (*Aerodramus vanikorensis bartschi*), Bridled White-eye (*Zosterops conspicillatus conspicillatus*), and the Hyun Lagu (*Serianthes nelsonii*).

The permit is a reissuance of a permit for an existing facility. No new construction, new pipelines, land, habitat, or hydrology alterations are associated with the permit reissuance. The effluent limitations in this reissued permit are all as stringent as or more stringent than those in the previous permit. The effluent limits in the permit will not result in acute or chronic exposures to contaminants that would affect federally listed threatened and endangered species, or impair any designated critical habitat. The effluent limits and monitoring requirements in the permit are designed to be fully protective of the beneficial uses of the receiving waters.

Thus, EPA believes that this permit reissuance will not affect any federally listed threatened and endangered species under the NOAA National Marine Fisheries or US Fish and Wildlife Services jurisdictions that may be present in the area of discharge. If, in the future, EPA obtains information or is provided information that indicates that there could be adverse impacts to federally listed species, EPA will contact the appropriate agency or agencies and initiate consultation, to ensure that such impacts are minimized or mitigated.

## **B. Impact to Coastal Zones**

The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) requires that Federal activities and licenses, including Federally permitted activities, must be consistent with an approved state Coastal Management Plan (CZMA Sections 307(c)(1) through (3)). Section 307(c) of the CZMA and implementing regulations at 40 CFR 930 prohibit EPA from issuing a permit for an activity affecting land or water use in the coastal zone until the applicant certifies that the proposed activity complies with the State (or Territory) Coastal Zone Management program, and the State (or Territory) or its designated agency concurs with the certification. At this time, EPA has not received a consistency certification from the Guam Department of Commerce for the proposed Shell Agat Terminal discharge. At the time the certification is received, EPA will review the certification and will make any necessary modification to the draft permit to ensure compliance with the Guam Coastal Management Plan.

## **C. Impact to Essential Fish Habitat**

The 1996 amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management and Conservation Act (MSA) set forth a number of new mandates for the National Marine Fisheries Service, regional fishery management councils and other federal agencies to identify and protect important marine and anadromous fish species and habitat. The MSA requires Federal agencies to make a determination on Federal actions that may adversely impact Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) in marine environments. Since the Big Guatali River is considered a freshwater ecosystem, federal requirements of the MSA do not apply to EPA's proposed action to issue an NPDES permit to discharge in the Big Guatali River. Therefore, EPA is not required to make a determination on whether this action may adversely impact Essential Fish Habitat, as defined under the MSA.

## **D. Impact to National Historic Properties**

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires federal agencies to consider the effect of their undertakings on historic properties either listed on, or eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places. Pursuant to federal requirements of NHPA and 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1), EPA has determined that the draft permit does not have the potential to affect any historic or cultural properties.

